THE EPIC JOURNEY STARTS HERE!

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

Archie® COMICS

SEGA®

COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS! PART ONE

ISSUE 253

ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

PREVIOUSLY...

THE WORLD'S COOLEST, BLUEST HERO JUST SAVED THE DAY – AGAIN!

After foiling Dr. Eggman's plans, both Sonic and Eggman woke up back in their home world, but with new memories – and a new past, altered by the reality-warping Genesis Wave!

But the artificial intelligence known as NICOLE may hold the key to what has happened, and by interacting with the heroic freedom fighters she may be able to "de-fragment" this new world from the old one, piece by piece.

Now it's up to Sonic and Tails to put the team back together, restore Nicole, and **find out just what happened to their world...**

WHO'S WHO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
FASTEST THING ALIVE

MILES "TAILS" PROWER
SONIC'S BEST BUD

DR. EGGMAN
SONIC'S MAD SCIENTIST NEMESIS

???

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (ISSN 1070511901) No. 253, November, 2013. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Jonathan Goldwater, Publisher/Co-CEO, Nancy Silberkleit, Co-CEO, Mike Pellerito, President, Victor Gorelick, Co-President. Single copies $2.99. Subscription rate, $35.88 for 12 issues. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. SEGA, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters and indicia are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2013, SEGA CORPORATION and SONICTEAM, LTD./SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2013. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 350 Rhode Island Street, Ste 400, San Francisco, CA 94103 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in USA.

COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS
PART ONE: THE BUILDER

Writer: IAN FLYNN • Pencil Layouts: TRACY YARDLEY!
Pencil Finishes: LAMAR WELLS • Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS • Letters: JOHN WORKMAN
Cover by BEN BATES • Variant Cover by T. REX

Assistant Editor: VINCENT LOVALLO
Editor / Executive Director of Editorial: PAUL KAMINSKI
Editor-in-Chief: VICTOR GORELICK • President: MIKE PELLERITO
Special Thanks to ANTHONY GACCIONE and CINDY CHAU
at SEGA Licensing

SAYS THE FOX WITH THE WEED-WHACKER TAILS...

...ANY LUCK FINDING ROTOR?

VREE! VREE!

I'VE GOT A REALLY WEAK SIGNAL NARROWED DOWN TO A FEW HUNDRED METERS, BUT THAT'S IT. IF THE KING HADN'T GIVEN US THOSE COORDINATES, THERE'D HAVE BEEN NO WAY TO KNOW WHERE TO LOOK.*

*SEE LAST ISSUE!

AND ROTE'S THE *ONE* FREEDOM FIGHTER WE'VE GOT ANY LEAD ON. HOPEFULLY, HE'S GOT A CLUE WHERE EVERYONE ELSE IS.

AND ONCE WE FIND THEM, THEY'LL PROVE OR DISPROVE MY THEORY ABOUT THEM BEING KEY TO RESTORING NICOLE.

SPEAKIN' OF--HOW YOU DOIN', GIRL?

S-S-STILL *KRK!* BUG-G-G-GY.

HANG IN THERE. WE'LL MAKE THIS RIGHT.

NICOLE
SUPER ADVANCED A.I.
(NOT DOING SO HOT RIGHT NOW)

AND I'D BE DOING IT A WHOLE LOT *FASTER* IF ROTE' WASN'T BEING SO DARN SECRETIVE!

S-S-SECRET PRO-⇒SHK⇐ -JECT W-W-WITH TAILZZZ. ⇒WRP⇐ H-H-HIDING-DING-DING FFFFFROM EGGMAN.

I...I *THINK* I REMEMBER THAT. IT SEEMS FAMILIAR. BUT IT'S HARD SIFTING THROUGH TWO SETS OF MEMORIES.

DON'T SWEAT IT, LI'L BRO. I'M SURE ROTOR CAN SORT IT ALL OUT FOR US...*WHEN* WE FIND HIM. *MAN,* I WISH WE COULD NARROW DOWN THAT SIGNAL OR FIND SOME KIND OF...

...GUIDE!

EFRIKA PLAINS...

OI! I'VE JUST ABOUT HAD IT, PUSHIN' THIS THING, DON'TCHA KNOW?

INDEED, MY SERVOS ARE CREAKING.

WELL, I'M TIRED, HUNGRY, THIRSTY, *AND* HAD TO CAMP OUT IN THE WILDERNESS, SO THE TWO OF YOU CAN *GET OVER IT!*

CUBOT HAS A BUGGY VOICE CHIP. HE TRIES...

ORBOT SASSY SUBORDINATE

DOCTOR EGGMAN MAD GENIUS

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, DON'T HAFTA BE SO MEAN ABOUT IT...

IF ONLY WE HAD A GENIUS MECHANIC WITH US. HE COULD DO SUCH THINGS AS FIX THE EGG MOBILE SO WE COULD GO HOME AND...

FIX IT WITH *WHAT,* YOU PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE BOCCE BALL?!

RRRUMBLE...

RRRUMBLE!!!

I HAVE NO TOOLS! NO FUEL CELLS! NO MACHINE SHOP TO WORK IN! NO IDEA *WHERE* WE ARE! IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE HIDING ALL THAT IN THAT BIG MOUTH OF YOURS--*PLEASE!* --DO SHARE!

RRRUMBLE...

AND WHAT IN BLAZES IS THAT RACKET?!

RRRUMBLE!!!
KOFF KOFF!
IS THIS ANOTHER "SURPRISE INSPECTION," SIR?

SURPRISE INSPECTION ...?
OF COURSE THIS IS AN INSPECTION! YOU DIDN'T LET ME SNEAK UP ON YOU, WHICH IS GOOD, BUT YOUR RESPONSE TIME IS LACKING. NAME, RANK--YOU KNOW THE DRILL!
SNORT AXEL THE WATER BUFFALO, EGG BOSS TO THE EFRIKA EGG ARMY UNIT. SIR.
"EGG ARMY!" OOH-HOO-HOO!
YOU ...UH... NEED ANY-THING ELSE?

WHOA-HO-HO! I'VE GOT TO GET ME ONE OF THESE!
PARDON ME, BOSS, BUT I DON'T RECALL YOUR FORCES BEING CALLED THE "EGG ARMY," AND THAT AXEL FELLOW CERTAINLY WASN'T ONE OF YOUR SUB-ORDINATES.
I KNOW. I HAD MY SUSPICIONS WHEN WE LANDED IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, BUT NOW...
I MAY HAVE BEEN... HASTY IN DISRUPTING SONIC'S CHAOS CONTROL.* I'LL NEED TO PERFORM FURTHER RESEARCH, BUT IT APPEARS THE WORLD'S REALITY WAS ALTERED TO SOME DEGREE.
*WORLDS COLLIDE PART 12--STH #25!!
YEAH, BUT ...TO WHAT DEGREE?
WHO CARES? I'VE GOT AN EGG ARMY WITH EGG BOSSES! MY CONCERNS ARE DINNER, FIXING THE EGG MOBILE, AND GETTING BACK TO THE DEATH EGG --IN THAT ORDER.

"AND THEN IT'S RIGHT BACK TO MAKING SONIC MISERABLE!"

BIG! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE, BUDDY?

FISHIN'.

BIG THE CAT
LAID-BACK TITAN

FROGGY
BIG'S BEST BUDDY

I CAN SEE THAT. BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO TEAM FREEDOM? WEREN'T YOU STILL IN THE CITY WHEN WE LEFT?

NOPE.

BUT... WELL, THEN, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL THIS TIME?

FISHIN'.

LET ME TRY.

HEY, DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT PROJECT ROTOR AND I WERE WORKING ON?

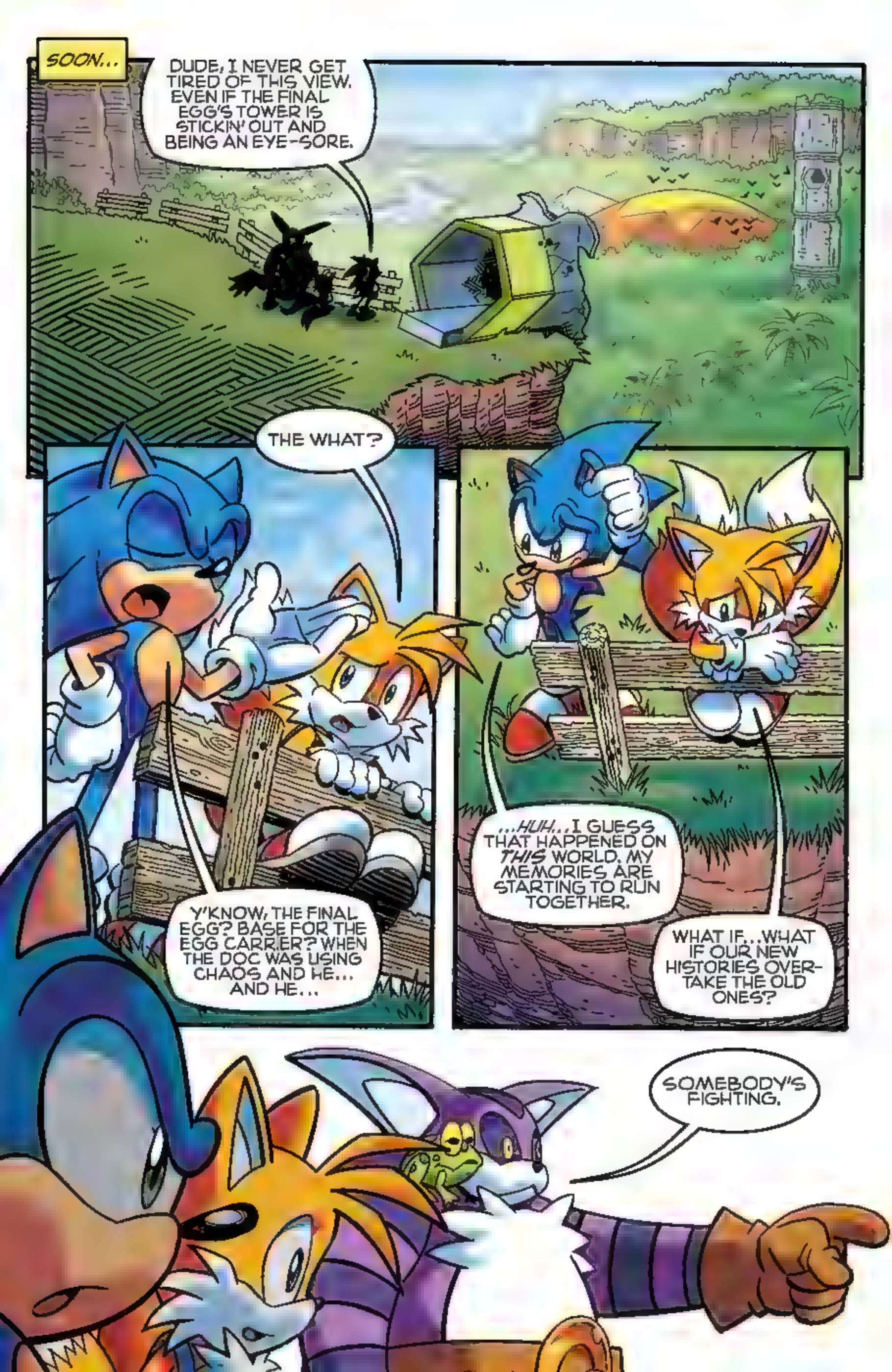
YEAH. IT'S BIG, LIKE ME!

HAHA-- I BET! WE GOT LOST. CAN YOU SHOW US THE WAY?

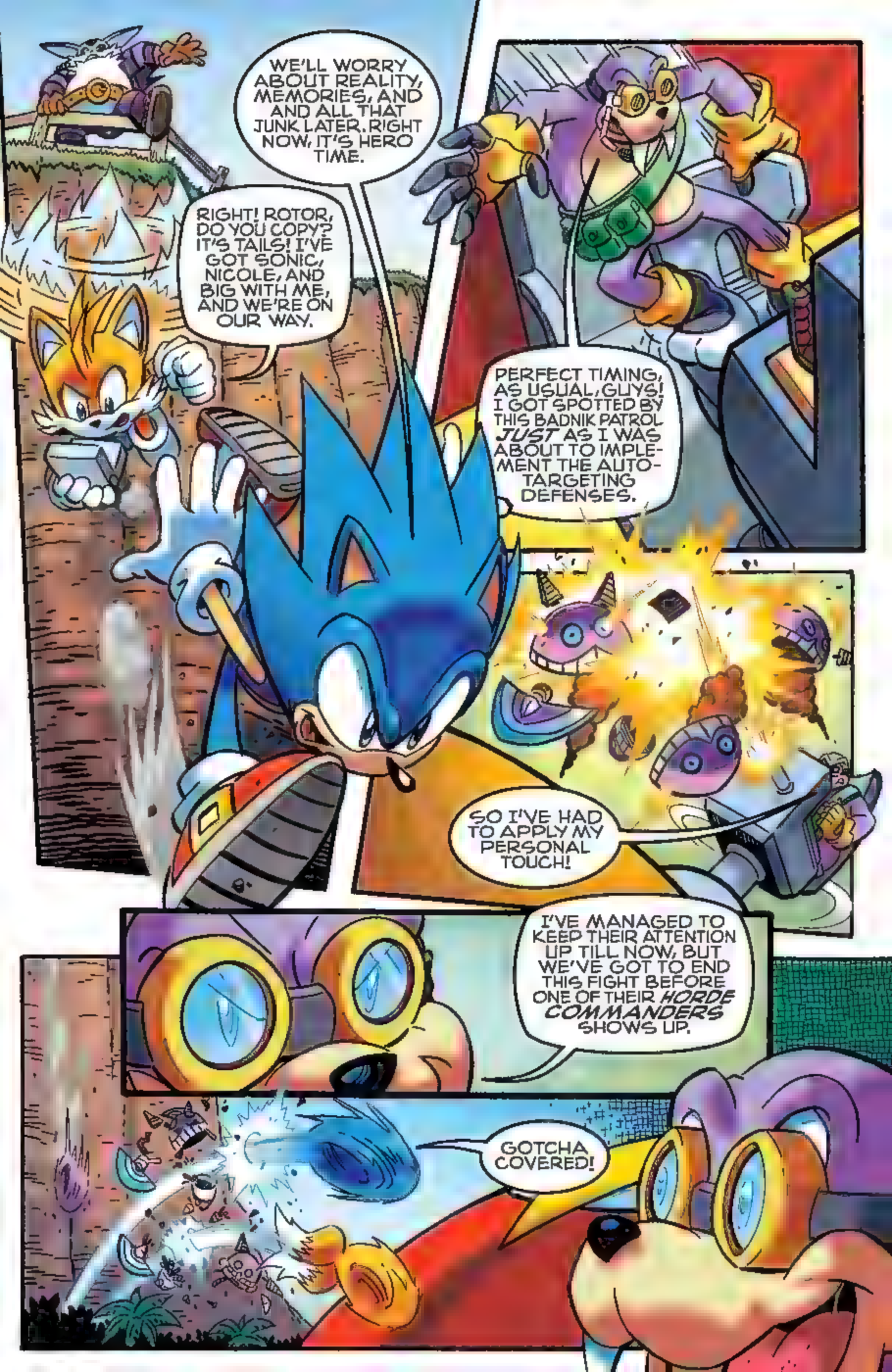
SURE.

GOLF CLAP!

THIS WAY!


SOON...
DUDE, I NEVER GET TIRED OF THIS VIEW. EVEN IF THE FINAL EGG'S TOWER IS STICKIN' OUT AND BEING AN EYE-SORE.
THE WHAT?
Y'KNOW, THE FINAL EGG? BASE FOR THE EGG CARRIER? WHEN THE DOC WAS USING CHAOS AND HE... AND HE...
...HUH... I GUESS THAT HAPPENED ON THIS WORLD. MY MEMORIES ARE STARTING TO RUN TOGETHER.
WHAT IF...WHAT IF OUR NEW HISTORIES OVER-TAKE THE OLD ONES?
SOMEBODY'S FIGHTING.

BLOW!
KZZT!
CRASH!
KLANG!
IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT?!
ROTOR THE WALRUS
FREEDOM FIGHTER
BATTLE-MECHANIC

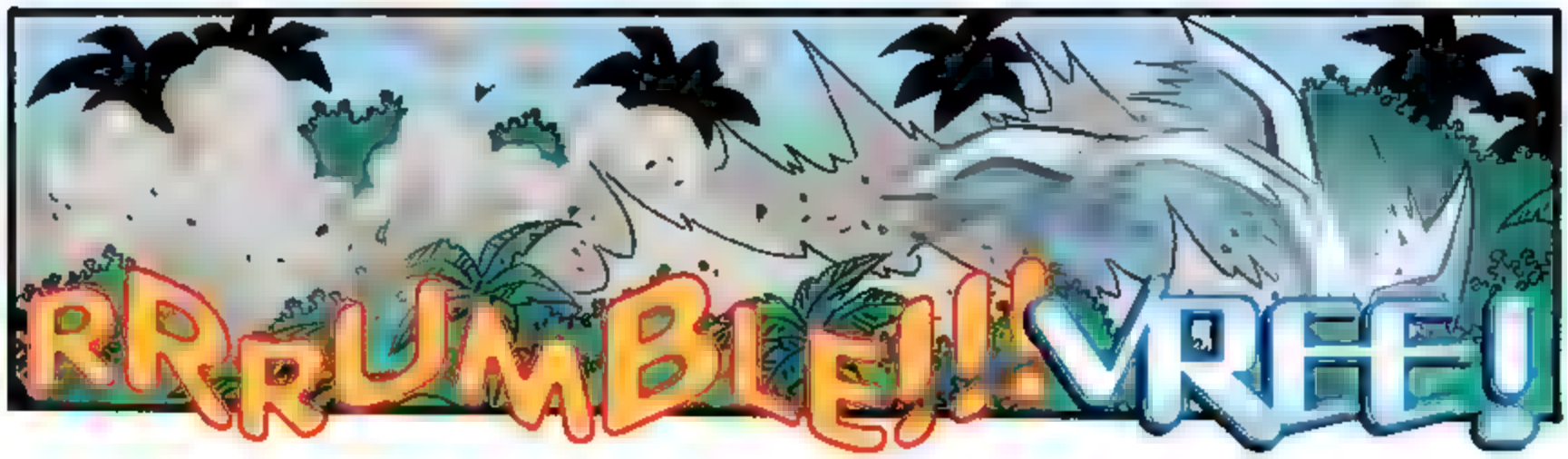

WE'LL WORRY ABOUT REALITY, MEMORIES, AND AND ALL THAT JUNK LATER. RIGHT NOW, IT'S HERO TIME.
RIGHT! ROTOR, DO YOU COPY? IT'S TAILS! I'VE GOT SONIC, NICOLE, AND BIG WITH ME, AND WE'RE ON OUR WAY.
PERFECT TIMING, AS USUAL, GUYS! I GOT SPOTTED BY THIS BADNIK PATROL *JUST* AS I WAS ABOUT TO IMPLEMENT THE AUTO-TARGETING DEFENSES.
SO I'VE HAD TO APPLY MY PERSONAL TOUCH!
I'VE MANAGED TO KEEP THEIR ATTENTION UP TILL NOW, BUT WE'VE GOT TO END THIS FIGHT BEFORE ONE OF THEIR *HORDE COMMANDERS* SHOWS UP.
GOTCHA COVERED!

HURRY! BEFORE THEY TRANS-MIT OUR LOCA-TION!
AW, SO I'VE GOTTA BE FAST? I DUNNO, GUYS...
WHOA
WHOA
WHOA
WHOA
WHOA
ALMOST DONE, BOYS! I THINK WE DID IT! THERE'S NO SIGN OF...
...OH, ME AND MY BIG MOUTH...
SILVER SONIC
EGGMAN'S BADNIK HORDE COMMANDER

VREE!
YEAH! THIRTY-SIX HOMING COMBO! DID YOU GUYS SEE--?
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
...WHOOPS.

BOOM!
I'VE GOT A SILVER SONIC INBOUND, AND THE BADNIKS ARE SWARMING ME!

CRASH!
ALMOST DONE WITH THIS BADNIK SWARM! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!


RRRUMBLE!! VREE!

NO!
STOP!
IT'S NOT NICE TO ATTACK MY FRIENDS!
HUP!
BOOM!
SKA-DOOSH!

CRASH!
CRASH!
NO MORE BADNIKS, AND SILVER SONIC'S BEEN CRIPPLED!
YEAH ...UH... THANKS!
ROTOR? THAT'S YOU, RIGHT?
OH, C'MON. YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AWAY THAT LONG!
NO, I MEAN...YOU LOOK GOOD, MAN!
HA, OKAY? YOU TOO.
SO... WHAT IS THIS THING?
TAILS DIDN'T TELL YOU? AW, MAN! I'LL GIVE YOU THE TOUR!
LET'S GET BIG IN HERE, TOO!

WELCOME TO THE BRIDGE OF THE SKY PATROL! I'M YOUR CAPTAIN, AND I'LL WELCOME YOU TO THE MAIDEN FLIGHT...ONCE BUNNIE'S AND SALLY'S MISSIONS ARE DONE.
T-PUP! YOU'RE HERE, TOO!
SO--WOW! "SKY PATROL?"
WHAT? YOU DON'T LIKE THE NAME NOW? MAN, YOU INSISTED ON IT. ANYWAY, GUYS, TAILS AND I DESIGNED THIS BEAUTY TO FINALLY HAVE AN ANSWER TO THE DEATH EGG AND FLYING FLEETS THE DOCTOR KEEPS THROWING AT US.
LOOK, ROTE', IT'S...IT'LL BE EASIER IF YOU TAKE NICOLE. MORE DIRECT, AT LEAST.
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU GUYS? I MEAN, SURE, I'D LOVE TO HAVE NICOLE'S HELP IN DEBUGGING THE SYSTEMS AND...

EASY THERE, BIG MAN! HOW YOU TAKIN' IT?

THERE...WAS A WHOLE OTHER WORLD...

I...HOW *CAN* YOU TAKE IT?

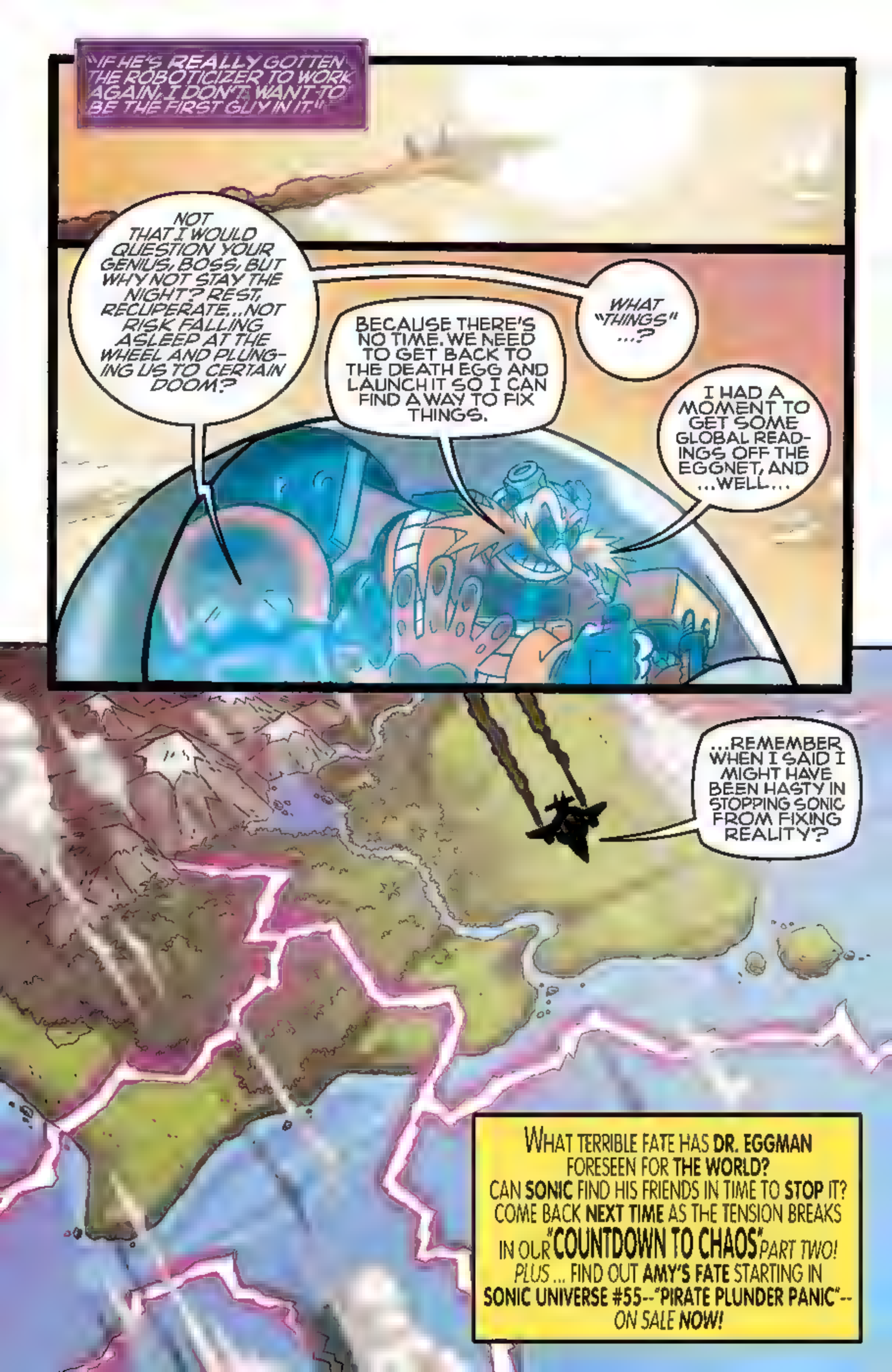
ROTOR?

I...I CAN'T! *OKAY?* I CAN'T PROCESS THIS RIGHT NOW! *WORK!* LET'S FOCUS ON WORK, AND...

HOW'S NICOLE?

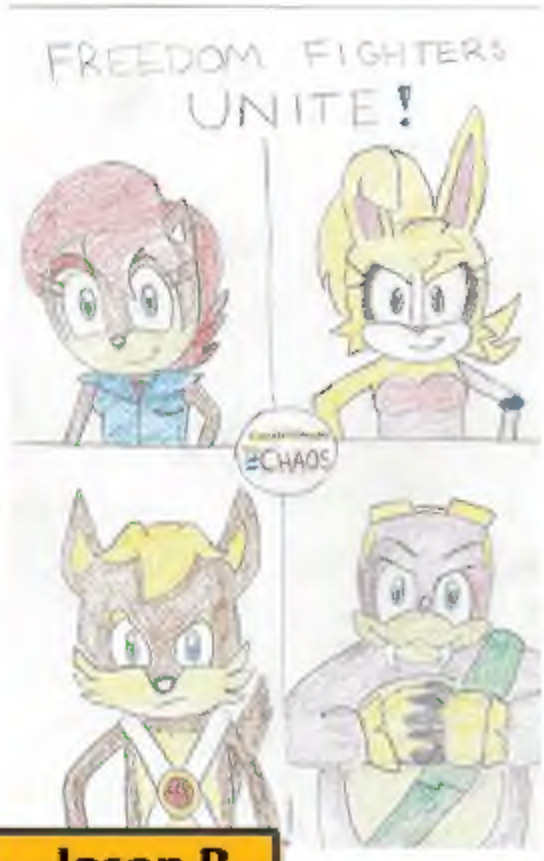
MUCH BETTER, THANK-VVT-HMM... NOT PERFECT...-VVT-
THAT PROVES IT TO ME. WE NEED TO FIND THE OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO GET NICOLE BACK TO ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.
WE WERE HOPING YOU'D HELP US WITH THAT SINCE...Y'KNOW...
RIGHT. UM...HOLD ON... LET ME...LET ME PULL UP OUR MISSION FILES...
MISSION STATUSES
SKY PATROL BOY
COMPLETE
COMPLETE
IN MISSION
UNDER COVER
OKAY, SO...BUNNIE AND SALLY ARE IN DEEP COVER ON MISSIONS FOR THE SKY PATROL. ANTOINE'S HELPING UNCLE CHUCK JUST OUTSIDE KNOT-HOLE. AMY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE, HELPING GUARD THE PLACE, BUT SHE JUST... VANISHED.
I THOUGHT MAYBE SHE WENT CHASING AFTER YOU AGAIN, BUT...?
NOPE, SO NOW WE'VE GOTTA FIND HER ON TOP OF THINGS. THANK-FULLY, I KNOW SHE CAN HANDLE HERSELF UNTIL WE GET TO HER.
BUT--MAN--CHUCK IS OKAY. BUNNIE'S STILL WITH US. AND ANTOINE'S ON HIS FEET! AND... SALLY'S...SALLY'S ON A MISSION. SHE'S NOT A ROBOT. SHE'S OKAY.
Y-YEAH? LOOK, I'LL...I'LL STAY HERE AND WRAP UP THE SKY PATROL AND... SORT THINGS OUT IN MY HEAD.
I'LL STAY, TOO. THERE MIGHT BE MORE ROBOTS.
GOOD IDEA, BIG. WE APPRE-CIATE IT.

"YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT EGGMAN WILL TRY NEXT."
EFRIKAN EGG ARMY BASE.
THAT SHOULD DO IT!
YOU'RE GOING TO FLY, IN THAT.
IT SHOULD GET ME AS FAR AS ...UM...
POP QUIZ! WHAT'S THE NEAREST BASE AND EGG BOSS?
UH...THAT'D BE LORD HOOD IN AVALON, RIGHT?
HAHA! IT BETTER BE!
WE'RE FULLY FUELED, AND THE ONBOARD COMPUTER IS SYNCHED WITH THE EGGNET, BOSS. WE'RE READY FOR LAUNCH.
THEN LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD.
TILL WE MEET AGAIN, MY LOYAL EGG SOLDIERS!
WHY DO WE TOLERATE HIM AGAIN, SIR?
BECAUSE WE HAVE TO. BESIDES, IF THE RUMORS ARE TRUE, THERE'S NO WAY I'M GETTING ON HIS BAD SIDE.


"IF HE'S REALLY GOTTEN THE ROBOTICIZER TO WORK AGAIN, I DON'T WANT TO BE THE FIRST GUY IN IT."
NOT THAT I WOULD QUESTION YOUR GENIUS, BOSS, BUT WHY NOT STAY THE NIGHT? REST, RECUPERATE...NOT RISK FALLING ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL AND PLUNGING US TO CERTAIN DOOM?
BECAUSE THERE'S NO TIME. WE NEED TO GET BACK TO THE DEATH EGG AND LAUNCH IT SO I CAN FIND A WAY TO FIX THINGS.
WHAT "THINGS" ...?
I HAD A MOMENT TO GET SOME GLOBAL READINGS OFF THE EGGNET, AND ...WELL...
...REMEMBER WHEN I SAID I MIGHT HAVE BEEN HASTY IN STOPPING SONIC FROM FIXING REALITY?
WHAT TERRIBLE FATE HAS DR. EGGMAN FORESEEN FOR THE WORLD? CAN SONIC FIND HIS FRIENDS IN TIME TO STOP IT? COME BACK NEXT TIME AS THE TENSION BREAKS IN OUR "COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS" PART TWO! PLUS ... FIND OUT AMY'S FATE STARTING IN SONIC UNIVERSE #55--"PIRATE PLUNDER PANIC"-- ON SALE NOW!

SONIC-GRAMS FAN ART

Madeline B. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Jason R. from Arizona

Eric D. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Elliot M. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

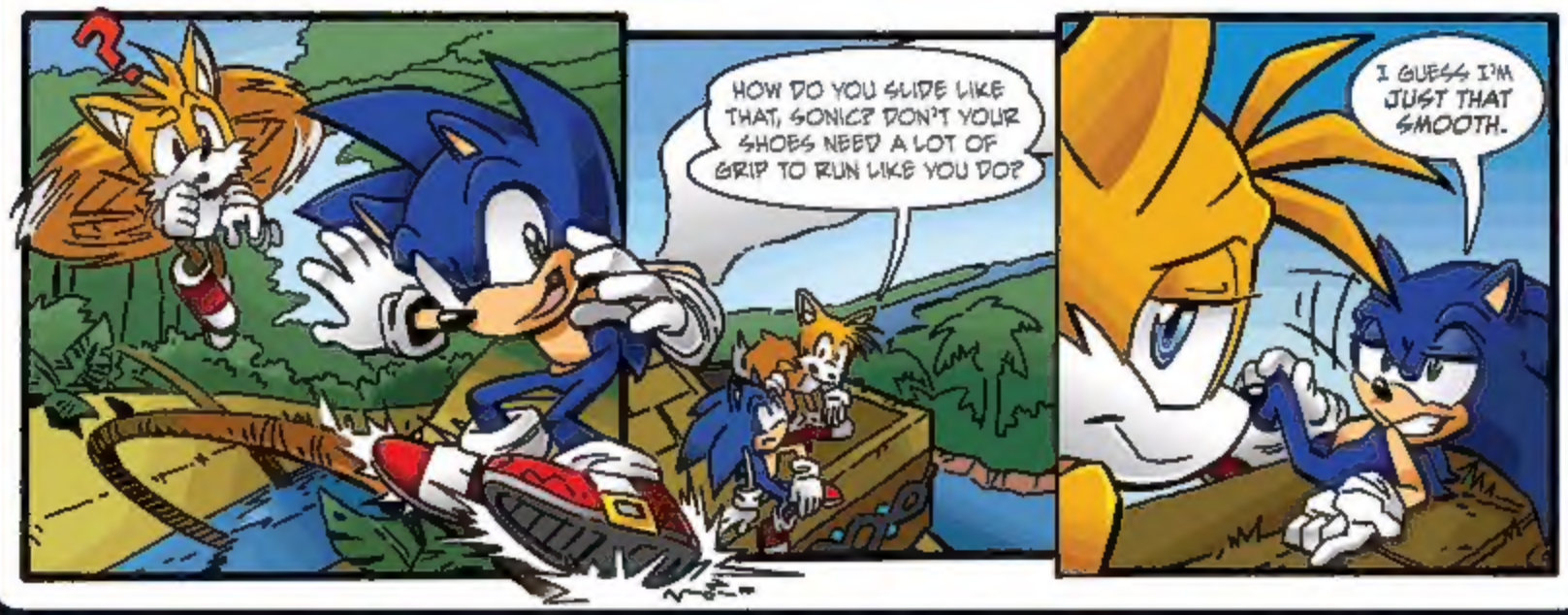
HEY, KIDS!

WANNA SEE YOUR OWN SONIC FAN ART OR FAN COMICS IN PRINT?? SEND YOUR ART TO :

MY SONIC FAN ART C/O
ARCHIE COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419
E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: TYLER CAPPS PENCILS: EVAN STANLEY
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN COLORS: ALEAH BAKER



WWW.ARCHIECOMICS.COM WWW.SEGA.COM

SONIC-GRAMS

WRITE TO US @: SONIC GRAMS C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

All letters, photos and art submitted to us become property of Archie Comics and may be edited for length and content. Sorry, but material will not be returned.

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Hi there! I'd like to say that you guys are awesome and I have some questions for you!

Helllooo! Come at me questions!

1.I loved Worlds Collide, do you think the Blue Blur and the Blue Bomber will ever meet again?

Nothing is impossible, only time will tell!

2.Will Espio be returning soon?

Espio and the rest of the Chaotix crew will be back before you know it! Keep reading Sonic the Hedgehog and Sonic Universe to find out!

3.Pass this to Espio and tell him that he is the best ninja I know and that he is awesome!

Damon H. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing in, Damon! I'll make sure Espio gets your message, as soon as I find him, that chameleon camouflage always seems to get the best of me!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
I've been a Sonic the Hedgehog fan ever since 2005, and have collected over 100 issues, including signatures from Ben Bates and Ian Flynn. These past 8 years have been awesome, reading all the collected Sonic Universe arcs you've made, and even the Worlds Collide saga made my year. When I saw the artwork for issue 251, I was freaking out. It looked amazing!!! Unfortunately, going into high school, my parents think it's best for me to stop subscribing. But that doesn't mean I can't go on the app!! I just wanted to say thanks for all the good times, the memories, and all the true blue action Sonic brings me.

Thomas F. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing in, Thomas! We're glad you've been enjoying the comics, and hope you continue reading however you can, because we have a lot more stories to tell!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Since Dr. Eggman messed things up does that mean Antoine will get out of his coma? Keep juicin!

sonicfan#1 sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the letter! The Countdown to Chaos storyline should be able to answer all your questions regarding the Freedom Fighters. Keep reading to find out!

See ya'll next month for part two of COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #253

VARIANT EDITION BY
T. Rex

AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING COMIC SHOPS:

HALLOWEEN ComicFest

SONIC LOST WORLD

THE OFFICIAL PREQUEL COMIC TO THE NEW HIT VIDEO GAME!

AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL COMIC RETAILER

FIND A COMIC SHOP NEAR YOU
comicshoplocator.com

AVAILABLE OCTOBER 26-27
FREE STAND-ALONE ISSUE AT YOUR LOCAL PARTICIPATING COMIC RETAILER

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 254

VARIANT EDITION BY
SEGA w/ Vin Lovallo
AVAILABLE AT YOUR
LOCAL COMIC RETAILER

COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS!

PART 2 OF 4

IN STORES 10.30.13

3 NEW TITLES
FROM THE SONIC GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY

ON SALE NOW

ISBN: 978-1-936975-56-3

SCAN THIS CODE FOR THIS BOOK AND MORE

ON SALE NOW

ISBN: 978-1-936975-55-6

SCAN THIS CODE FOR THIS BOOK AND MORE

ON SALE NOW

ISBN: 978-1-936975-63-1

SCAN THIS CODE FOR THIS BOOK AND MORE

FIND A COMIC SHOP NEAR YOU!
comicshoplocator.com

ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Apple, the Apple logo, iphone and ipad are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service of Apple Inc.